

## FARMERS WHO FARM

AND HOPEFULNESS THE  
KEYNOTE OF THEIR MEETING.

## NO KICKER OR GROWLER THERE

LARGE ATTENDANCE, HELPFUL AD-  
DRESSES AND GOOD CHEER.

John E. Frost Tells of Marvels That  
Kansas Soil and Sunshine Have  
Wrought—Mrs. Noble L.  
Prestis Heard Last  
Evening.

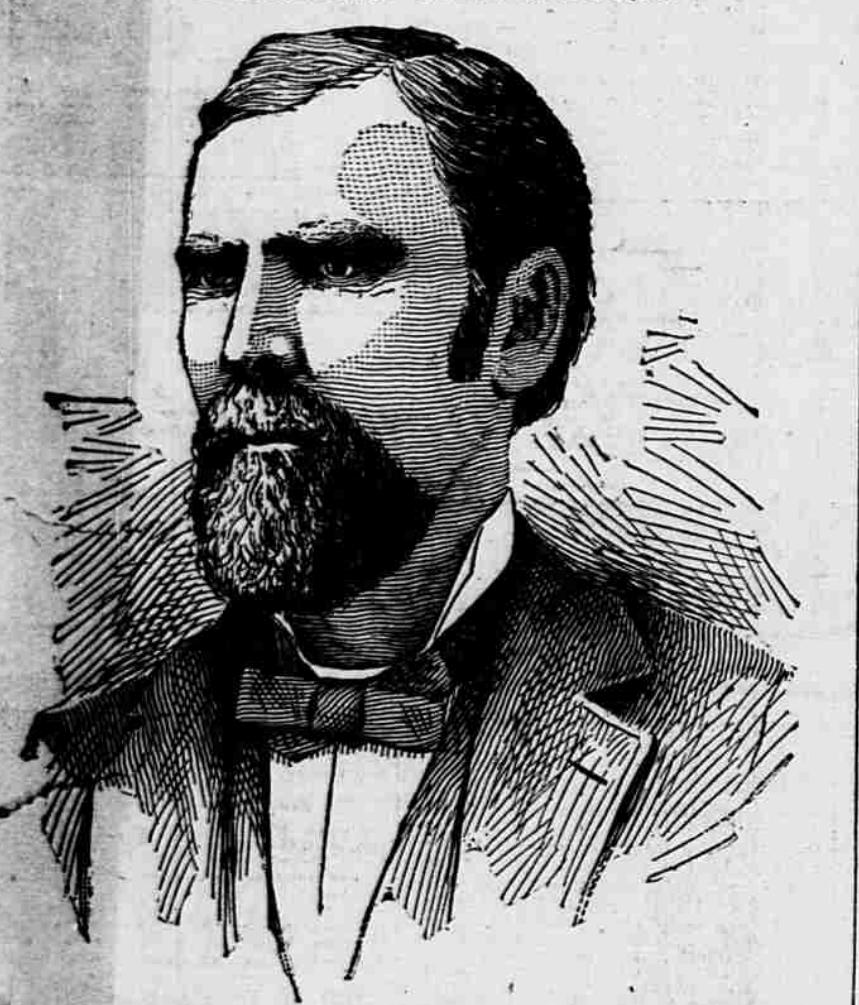
Topeka, Kan., Jan. 13.—(Special.) There  
is one noticeable feature about the present  
meeting of the state board of agriculture  
that is worthy of comment. It is the good  
fellowship displayed by the delegates. They

of the other best agricultural states in the  
Union.

**Steadiness of Live Stock Output.**  
"Now, in contrast with the fluctuations  
noted, we observe the marked steadiness of  
the live stock, dairy and poultry output  
of the state. Growth in all these lines is  
manifest, but it has been gradual and with  
very little variation year by year. During  
the last twenty years, there has been rarely  
over 10 per cent variation in the value  
of animals slaughtered and sold for slaugh-  
ter between any two consecutive years  
showing the widest variation, and the same  
is true of dairy and poultry products."  
"Furthermore, in some of the poorest crop  
years we find these live stock products  
show an increase over contiguous good  
crop years. For example, in the two suc-  
cessively bad crop years of '93 and '94, the  
value of animals slaughtered and sold for  
slaughter showed from \$4,000,000 to \$7,000,000  
increase over the two previous fine crop  
years.

"Observe the dairy products of the last  
seven years. Here are the figures in round  
numbers. In 1891, 30,000,000 pounds; in 1892,  
1893 and 1894, about 28,000,000 pounds each  
year; in 1895, 32,000,000 pounds; in 1896, 36,  
000,000 pounds; and in 1897, 38,000,000 pounds.  
"During the same period the value of  
poultry products sold was \$2,300,000 in 1891,

SECRETARY F. D. COBURN.



For four years he has been helping Kansas farmers to raise bigger crops and to  
sell them to more profitable account. In doing it he has carried the fame of Kansas  
to the ends of the earth. To-day he will be reassured to duty, for another two years,  
by a unanimous vote.

and seem to be happy and contented. Not a  
single kicker or growler has yet put in  
his appearance. Kansas farmers are  
glowing this year; they all admit it, and re-  
joice over it. They are enthusiastic in  
sounding the praises of the great Sunflower  
state and its bountiful crops and  
prosperity. They feel that the  
days of gloom are past and that from  
now on no set of people on earth will be  
more independent than the Kansas farmer.  
At to-day's meeting of the convention,  
John E. Frost, the well known immigration  
commissioner, read a paper on "Our Out-  
look." The paper dwelt with Kansas agri-  
cultural, horticultural, mineral and  
all other ways, in the past and made prog-  
noscications for the future. It was filled  
with statistical information of a valuable  
nature and was pronounced the best gen-  
eral survey of the resources of the state  
written in recent years. So much pleased  
was the board with it that it will be printed  
in pamphlet form and scattered broad-  
cast in the East.

**Best Year in Kansas History.**  
The year 1897, said Mr. Frost, "has  
been a good year, although I have  
said that there were some previous  
years that were better. Some of the  
best of the previous years were our  
years 1892 and 1893. In several other  
years the value of animals slaughtered  
and sold was a little larger, but  
in no year was the value of the live  
stock products so large as in 1897. In  
my judgment, we have  
year which equaled the one  
substantial net results to our  
state, and which we can attribute not  
to good prices, but largely to  
methods, economy and ad-  
vantageable lines of farming  
and observation and in-  
telligence for the collection and  
which in a most concise  
and much credit is due  
to the efficient secretary, whose  
own opinion, of more direct  
to the farmer than those of any  
ward in the United States.

Our retrospect, one of the most salient  
features observable is the great variation  
in different years of yields of the three  
great cereals—corn, wheat and oats. In  
some years, all were heavy, in a few all  
were light, in other years corn yielded  
heavily, while the small grains of the same  
years were exceedingly light, and in other  
years the reverse was true. You cannot  
find any period of five consecutive years  
in the state's history in which there were  
not years when the yield of some one of  
these cereals, and generally of all, was not  
double or nearly double that of the same  
grain in some other year, or years, of the  
same five year period; but it is equally true  
that for the entire time, or for any of the  
five-year periods, the average yields per  
acre compare favorably with average yields

ending March 1, 1897, its product reached  
\$157,000. In McPherson county the butter  
product for the year ending March 1, 1895,  
was \$34,000, for the succeeding year, 1896,  
and for the year ending March 1, 1897, it  
was \$225,000, making McPherson county the  
butter dairy county of the state, with a  
total dairy product of nearly a quarter of a  
million dollars.

"Now, while our retrospect shows the re-  
liability, progress and growth of the live  
stock interests of the state, and that they  
are the basis of the foundation of the farmer's  
prosperity, and with their concomitant  
grain and grass crops constitute our most  
important interests, it also shows that Kan-  
sas is one of the greatest wheat states in  
the Union. During the present decade we  
have had three wheat crops of over 50,000,-  
000 bushels each, one of them almost 60,000,-  
000, and another of the three reaching  
55,000,000. But once in that period has our  
wheat crop been worth less than \$10,000,000,  
and but twice has the yield been less than  
25,000,000 bushels. In 1895 we called the crop  
a failure, but even in that year its value  
reached \$20,000,000.

**"If One Miss, the Other Fails."**

"So our Western farmers, as a rule, find  
it advantageous to combine wheat produc-  
tion with their live stock operations. If  
wheat failures occur, they have their live  
stock to fall back upon. The calves come,  
the cows milk, which the creamery can  
consume, the steers and hogs wax fat, just  
the same, whether rains are plentiful or  
scarce, whether the kind blows or all nature  
smiles.

"On the other hand, when we have one  
of those rousing high wheat crops which  
only Kansas can produce when she 'humps  
herself,' it atones for several short crops.  
"The results obtained in 1897 by a vast  
number of our farmers are well high mar-  
velous. I trust that I may be pardoned for  
giving a few of them as samples of many  
that have come to my personal attention.  
"Mr. M. K. Kreider, near Rozel, Pawnee  
county, Kas., put in 450 acres of wheat in  
the fall of 1896, doing all the work himself.  
He harvested therefrom 3,000 bushels of  
wheat. He has sold it at an average price  
of 72 cents per bushel.

"Mr. Louis Artz, a farmer living on up-  
land five miles north of Larned, last spring  
offered his place for lease for wheat crop  
last year brought him more clear money  
than he offered to take for his farm. Mr.  
Artz was deeply in debt before harvest.  
He has now paid off his indebtedness, and  
is on his feet once more; all done through  
last year's wheat crop.

"Seeman Bros., living northeast of  
Larned, had 1,000 acres in wheat, from  
which they threshed 23,000 bushels, making  
an average of twenty-three bushels per  
acre, for which they received an average  
price of 75 cents per bushel.

**Illinois Man's Experience.**

"Mr. Frank Froer, the owner of a flour  
mill at Lincoln, Ill., bought several years  
ago, several thousand acres of land in Paw-  
nee county, a portion of which he has  
under cultivation, and in the fall of '96  
put 4,000 acres thereof into wheat. It yielded  
about 30,000 bushels last year, which he  
has shipped to his Lincoln mill from which  
he makes his best grade of flour. Mr. Froer,  
recognizing the splendid advantages of  
Western Kansas as a stock region, has  
about 1,000 head of cattle upon his land and  
raised last year 300 calves and is preparing  
to extend his live stock operations quite  
largely this season.

"Messrs. Spier Bros., of Pawnee county,  
rented 120 acres of land in that county,  
which they put into wheat in the fall of '96.  
Last spring the owner of the tract offered  
to sell it for \$12,000. The Spier Bros. har-  
vested from it last summer \$23,500 worth of  
wheat.

"In Rush county, Phillip Moore har-  
vested 1,100 bushels of wheat last year from  
fourty acres of ground, selling the wheat for  
\$90, which was about three times as much  
as the land would have sold for last  
spring.

"Mr. L. Munyon, of Timken, Rush coun-  
ty, bought a farm near that place about a  
year ago for \$1,500. His wheat crop, har-  
vested from a portion of the farm, sold for  
\$1,750.

"Mr. W. D. Kennedy, of Reno county,  
had last season 160 acres in wheat which  
yielded an average of forty-five bushels  
per acre.

**What Three Counties Did.**

"The 1897 wheat crop of Sumner county  
was 1,585,000 bushels, value \$2,377,500, or  
per capita for every man, woman and child  
in the county. The crop of Barton county  
was 3,000,000 bushels, value \$1,850,000, or  
per capita for every man, woman and child  
in the county. That of Rush county, the  
western third of the state, was 1,630,000  
bushels, value \$1,108,000, being 329 per cap-  
ita, or on a basis of four persons to a  
family, \$308 cash for every family in the  
county. When we take into consideration  
the value of the wheat crop in any one  
county in any of the best wheat growing  
states east of the Missouri river, we find  
the agricultural output of  
the past year, it is noteworthy that the  
honors are well deserved by the people of  
Republican lead in corn, Sumner in wheat,  
Marion in oats, Ness in barley, Marion  
in broomcorn and butter, Barber in  
Kaffir corn, Butler in sorghum, in  
sheep and second in swine; Pottawatomie  
in value of animal slaughter, and sold  
for slaughter; Dickinson in milk cows  
in Jerusalem, corn, and Finney  
county, away out in the west, the value  
of alfalfa, with an acreage of five  
thousand acres, nearly double that of any  
other county.

During the year 500,000 cattle were  
shipped into the state by the various rail-  
roads from outside sources, and prop-  
erty, a much larger number than in  
any previous year; a considerable propor-  
tion are she cattle and will add proportion-  
ately to the herds of the state.

**Debt Paying and Deposits.**  
"Although during the year the people of  
Kansas have paid off \$30,000,000 of indebt-  
edness, the deposits in banks at this time over  
an increase of 50 per cent at this time over  
the year 1890, now aggregating about \$60,  
000,000, and the heavy volume of money  
in the past ten years, and what is more  
important, as during almost wholly to  
loan companies, and Eastern people, who  
sent their money out here for investment  
to be withdrawn later on.

"The foregoing facts, revealed  
by our look backwards, furnish the  
basis for the prediction of a founda-  
tion upon which to rest with confidence  
the present prospects of Kansas.  
"What of Kansas' future? It seems to  
me full of promise and bright future,  
both immediate and remote. Our horizon  
seems very bright. Prosperity is already  
before us, and the banks are becoming  
evidence of this, but we have additional  
proof on every hand—the improved business  
of retail merchants in volume and the  
volume of cash trade, the frequent instances  
of desperate or hopeless, the large increase  
in sales of the wholesale houses, the in-  
crease of volume of railroad business, the  
buildings required for use on farms and in  
towns, repairs and additions to old ones,  
the increase in flocks and herds, the well filled  
granaries, the great abundance of stock  
fed, all these things observable in all  
parts of the state are unmistakable evi-  
dences of returning prosperity.

**Population Increasing Again.**

"For the first time in ten years, last  
spring's census showed an increase in the

MUNYON'S  
CURE

population of the state over the previous  
year. Judgment, permanent im-  
provement comes in at least two years  
ago. Notwithstanding adverse conditions,  
the state has been gradually gathering its  
forces and gaining strength for a consid-  
erable time back, but the census of 1897  
afforded the most indubitable evidence that  
of Kansas has as much capital invested  
turned the corner and were on the high-  
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